

COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES

Wednesday, December 8, 2020

MaryAnn Miller called the Commission on Aging and Disability Services meeting to order at 9:03 am

Roll Call

Dianne Birkholz, Judy Braun (phone), Shirley Kitchen (phone), Jody Langfeldt (phone), MaryAnn Miller (phone), Lorna Negen, Gary Schmidt, Del Yaroch

Also Present

Sheila Drays (phone), Amanda Higgins, Catherine Knickelbein (phone), Kris Schefft, Jackie Wendlandt

Excused

None

Absent

None

Roll Call, Introductions, and Non-Member County Board Members

Roll call and introductions commenced.

Public Comment

None

Action on the Minutes of the October 13, 2020 meeting

Del Yaroch motioned and Dianne Birkholz seconded to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2020 meeting with one item noted and corrected. Motion carried.

Highlight of Positions in the ADRC

Catherine Knickelbein is the Caregiver Program Coordinator for the ADRC. Catherine stated her programs support people as much as they can in order for individuals with dementia to stay in their homes. The family caregiver support programs provide help for caregiver respite, cleaning, personal care for loved ones including activities such as Rock Steady Boxing, small home remodels, etc. There is a loan closet available to rent out adaptive equipment. Catherine also documents in the state database. Catherine stated she teaches health and wellness classes like Mind Over Matter and Healthy Living with Diabetes, as well as evidence based classes like Powerful Tools for Caregivers. Catherine takes part in caregiver calls, coordinates events for relaxation, Support 2 Stay at Home, Music & Memory program, and publishes a quarterly caregiver newsletter.

Aging/Nutrition/Transportation Supervisor's Activity Updates

Kris Schefft stated that most needs have been met in both the Nutrition Program as well as the Transportation Program. Home delivered meals are being served to all participants on the program as no dining centers are open for congregate at this time. Pick ups are available pending approval by the Supervisor. Medical rides remain a priority in the Transportation Program and needs are being met.

Caregiver/Dementia Specialist Program Updates

Catherine Knickelbein stated that there are lots of virtual events and programs going on right now. The Caregivers Holiday Event via Zoom party will be on December 16 starting at 1:30 pm. Party ingredients as well as a catered meal certificate will be delivered the day before the party to all registered participants. A new program to Dodge County is the SCOUT program, Supporting Caregivers Online Using Technology. The SCOUT program teaches caregivers how to use specific products including how to use

Zoom. This program loans out technology to use while on this program. There are billboards throughout Dodge County that advertises the SCOUT program funding through federal and state monies due to social isolation.

Benefit Specialist Activity Updates

Amanda Higgins stated the Annual Enrollment Period (AEP) ended on December 7. Pre-AEP letters were sent out in August to all individuals who received assistance from a Benefit Specialist in the past year. At the end of September 250 open enrollment packets were then sent to those individuals. Press releases, Facebook posts, the Watermark Courier, as well as the ADRC newsletter all informed residents of the impending Annual Enrollment Period. The Benefit Specialists were also on Community Comments and Senior Solutions. There were 98 clients served by the Elder Benefit Specialist (EBS) and 28 by the Disability Benefit Specialist (DBS) during this time period. Two volunteers spent 38.5 hours to help run the PlanFinder results. The average counsel time during the AEP is two hours. The average savings for those assisted by the EBS who switched plans was \$800-1,000 with a maximum seen of \$4,000-6,000. The average savings for those assisted by the DBS who switched plans was \$1,200 with a maximum seen of \$19,000. Lastly, Amanda stated the virtual Welcome to Medicare workshops are scheduled for the 1st quarter: January 21 from 9 am-Noon, February 15 from 1-4 pm, and March 16 from 1-4 pm.

ADRC/Aging Supervisor's Activity Updates

October 2020 call statistics were provided for members of this board and briefly discussed. The complexity of calls as well as COVID and meal related calls are immense this month. Kris explained that once a week some of our ADR Specialists were working in Public Health to help with contact tracing. Due to Public Health hiring LTE positions for this our specialists are now able to back into their ADRC jobs more. Kris reviewed the *Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Reinvestment* attachment provided for all members of this committee. Kris stated that a resolution will be written on this topic hopefully sometime in February.

Future Agenda Items - Opportunity to Request Topics of Discussion for Future Meetings

Scams. Kris will confirm that Paula Becker, Adult Protective Services Supervisor, can present on this topic.

Review of Operations

None

Meetings in 2021

The next meetings of the Commission on Aging and Disability Services will be on **January 12, March 9, May 11, July 13, September 14, and November 9 at 9:00 am** in the **Henry Dodge Office Building, 199 County Road DF, in Room G046.**

Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned this meeting of the Commission on Aging and Disability Services at 9:35 am. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judy Braun, Secretary

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next committee meeting.